



László Molnárfi &lt;molnarfl@tcd.ie&gt;

---

## Students in Fee and Rent Arrears Increased by 67% to 11,189 During Pandemic

---

László Molnárfi <molnarfl@tcd.ie>  
To: press@majordomo9.com

10 August 2022 at 00:13

To whom it may concern,

As the cost of education has increased, 11,189 students and their families have fallen in arrears during the Covid-19 pandemic across Ireland. This number was obtained following 33 Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014 requests to all third-level institutions in the Republic and the North of Ireland. The responses we received indicate a 67% increase in fee and university-owned rent arrears from 6,678 in 2018-2019 to 11,189 in 2020-2021. Students4Change is sharing these worrying figures and calls for immediate action to organise against this capitalist government and for socialist power.

László Molnárfi, Chairperson of Students4Change, said "The political consciousness of the student movement has been so far to cooperate with the neoliberal coalition. This has miserably failed the students of Ireland. Photo-shoots with Minister Harris or any other politician from the FF/FG/Greens has led to nothing but empty promises from the government. Such actions will not lead to change being made, since being 'respectable' or being in with them will not make them listen to us. While they are preoccupied with stunts, students on-the-ground are struggling as evidenced by the sharp increase in the number of those in fee and rent-related arrears. Instead, we must agitate against the enemies of students, workers and our communities. We are under attack and this must be met with the most severe fightback. Nothing should be off the table – strikes, marches and occupations to realise our demands. We demand free, public and democratic education for all!"

More information [here](#), including longer press release, table visualization and map visualization. Original data linked on the Students4Change FOI database [here](#) in the "Rent and Fee Arrears" folder, including two Excel sheets for ease of analysis.

Feel free to call me at +32 470 58 31 74.

In solidarity,

László Molnárfi

Students 4 Change

Chairperson



is an alliance of Marxist and Anarchist students from Trinity College Dublin focused on the housing crisis in relation to student accommodation, Irish neutrality, SU reform and other matters of student politics. Go on our website [students4change.eu](https://students4change.eu), follow us on social media or email us at [contact@students4change.eu](mailto:contact@students4change.eu)!